

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT/JP2003/016304



PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference H151201D01P	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/JP2003/016304	International filing date (day/month/year) 19 December 2003 (19.12.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC C22C 38/00, B22C 9/06, B22D 17/22, C22C 38/38, 38/60		
Applicant DAIDO STEEL CO.,LTD		

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 3 sheets, including this cover sheet.

3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:

a. ☒ (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of 11 sheets, as follows:

☒ sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).

☐ sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.

b. ☐ (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).

4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

☒ Box No. I Basis of the report

☐ Box No. II Priority

☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention

☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited

☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application

☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 20 June 2005 (20.06.2005)	Date of completion of this report 28 November 2005 (28.11.2005)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2003/016304

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☒ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is language of a translation furnished for the purpose of:

- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the **elements** of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

☐ The international application as originally filed/furnished

☒ the description:

pages _____ 1,3,5,6,9,10,13,15-17 _____, as originally filed/furnished

pages* _____ 2,2/1,4,7,8,11,12,12/1,14 _____ received by this Authority on _____ 14 November 2005 (14.11.2005)

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☒ the claims:

pages _____ 6,7 _____, as originally filed/furnished

pages* _____, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

pages* _____ 1-5 _____ received by this Authority on _____ 14 November 2005 (14.11.2005)

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☐ the drawings:

pages _____, as originally filed/furnished

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

☐ the description, pages _____

☐ the claims, Nos. _____

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____

☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____

☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

☐ the description, pages _____

☐ the claims, Nos. _____

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____

☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____

☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP 03/16304

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-7	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-7	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-7	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

Document 1: JP 56-54379 B2 (Hitachi Metals, Ltd.), 25
December 1981

Document 2: JP 8-164465 A (Daido Steel Co., Ltd.), 25
June 1996

Document 3: JP 2002-121643 A (Hitachi Metals, Ltd.), 26
April 2002

Claims 1 to 7

The inventions set forth in claims 1 to 7 are not disclosed in any of the documents that are cited in the international search report; therefore, the inventions in question are novel and involve an inventive step. In particular, the feature of increasing the amount of nitrogen that is added to hot work tool steel like the steel from the invention that is set forth in the present application and the feature of configuring so that only 0.3% by weight or less of vanadium is added thereto are not disclosed in any of the abovementioned documents; however, the inventions that are set forth in the present application exhibit an advantageous effect whereby it is possible to improve the dissolution resistance characteristics of the hot work tool steel as a result of the features in question.